

DISCUSSION OF THE AMENDMENT

Claims 80, 82 and 88-89 are active in the present application. Claims 1-81, 83-87 and 90-92 are canceled claims. Claim 82 is amended and is now drawn to a preferred embodiment of the invention encompassed by the previously presented claim.

No new matter is added.

REMARKS

Applicants thank Examiner Toomer for acknowledging that at least Claims 80, 82 and 88-89 are allowable in the Office Action of September 11, 2007 (see paragraph No. 6, on page 4 of the September 11, Office Action).

The amendment to the claims simplifies the pending claims. The only remaining pending claims are claims identified as allowable in the September 11, 2007, Office Action. The cancellation of previously pending claims is not intended as a surrender of subject matter or disclaimer.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

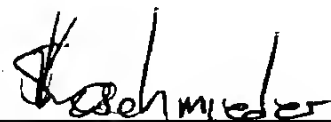
Applicants submit concurrently herewith an IDS. The IDS submits references submitted in the oppositions against the European Patent 1233990 which corresponds to the present application. In addition, the IDS includes the references cited in the opposition of European Patent 1226188 which corresponds to related application 10/089,064. In addition, the IDS provides the decision of the EPO and a transcript of the oral proceedings in EP1226188.

A Declaration by David Price submitted in the opposition proceedings of EP 1233990 is also submitted. The references identified in the Declaration by "D#" are referenced to the opposition proceedings previously submitted in this case.

Applicants request withdrawal of the rejections and passage of all now-pending claims to issuance.

Respectfully submitted,

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